

## COOK DID NOT FIND POLE IS U. C. REPORT

University of Copenhagen Today  
Declares the Explorer is  
a Fakir.

### CLAIM IS NOT ESTABLISHED

Both Committees, Which Examine  
Records, and Consistors, are Much  
Disappointed—No Original  
Calculations Made.

Copenhagen, Dec. 21.—The University of Copenhagen, the first institution of learning to recognize Dr. Cook as the discoverer of the North Pole, today declared the explorer had failed to establish his claim. The committee appointed by the university to examine Cook's records recently presented its report to the consistory of the university, which reviewed the deductions of the experts with the greatest care and discussed the findings from every standpoint. That both the committee and consistory were disappointed was soon known.

The consistory met today and adopted a written report to the effect that the alleged records submitted for examination by Cook failed to prove his claim he had reached the pole.

The report of the committee of which Prof. Stromgren was chairman as presented to the consistory, states Cook's papers are without any value and that his report to the university is practically the same as that published in the New York Herald upon his return from his Arctic expedition.

Copies of his notebooks submitted, says the committee, contain no original calculations of observations, but only results thereof. Accordingly the committee concludes he affords no proof of having reached the pole.

No Surprise in New York.  
New York, Dec. 21.—The news that the University of Copenhagen had declined to accept Cook's claim he had reached the pole came as no surprise to scientific circles here and to many of his friends, who had been prepared for the result by early indications that Cook's claims would not be favorably passed on. Cook is now in Christiania, Norway, according to William L. Cook, his brother. The latter declared the explorer is ready to go to Copenhagen to give the university further information concerning his claims.

"Fooled Us All"—Bradley.  
"He has fooled us all, from the King of Denmark down," was the exclamation of John R. Bradley, Cook's backer in the Arctic trip, when apprised of the news from Copenhagen, "and he fooled me with the rest," Bradley added. Bradley, continuing, declared he had long ago lost all interest in Cook and everything connected with the north pole. While delighted with the first news of Cook's supposed success, Bradley says his failure to make more than meagre statements caused suspicion. Cook's sudden disappearance, too, Bradley adds, caused him to doubt.

Charles Wake, Cook's closest friend and only person beside his brother who knew the whereabouts of the explorer in the last few weeks, was as dumbfounded when informed of the verdict reached by the University of Copenhagen that he gasped for breath. Wake said Cook never expected such a verdict for he always spoke with full confidence the decision would be in his favor.

"Certainly I never dreamed of such fraud as seems apparent now," declared Wake.  
Herbert L. Bridgeman, secretary of the Peary Arctic club, declared he never had any faith in Cook's story and was not surprised at the Copenhagen verdict.

Another Examination Possible.  
Washington, Dec. 21.—The officials of the National Geographic society, while declining to make any official statement, today expressed no surprise at the Copenhagen verdict on Cook's claim. Some say it was expected all along. Prof. Willis L. Moore, president of the society, which, through a committee of the body, is conducting an investigation into the discovery of the north pole, said it was possible this committee will go to Copenhagen to examine Cook's records. Members of the board of managers, however, do not think such examination necessary and are quite ready to let the matter drop so far as the Cook discovery is concerned.

Much Indignation in Denmark.  
There is much indignation throughout Denmark today over the supposed deception practiced upon the Danish people by Cook. The members of the university commission are said to be furious.

### Cook Is Heard From.

Copenhagen, Dec. 21.—Cook's secretary handed Prof. Torp a letter from the explorer in which the latter stated that not only were his instruments left at Etah, as indicated in his cable to the University on October 23, but most of his astronomical observations were also left at that point and he adds that without these it seems unwise and impossible to pass final judgment upon

### THIS IS SHORTEST DAY.

Earth Reaches Winter Solstice, which  
Marks Beginning of Winter.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—For this latitude today is the shortest day of the year and at six o'clock tomorrow morning, mean Washington time, the earth will reach the winter solstice, which, astronomically speaking, marks the beginning of winter. In its mad rush around its elliptical orbit around the sun, the earth, twice every astronomical year, reaches points which mark respectively the longest and the shortest distance of the earth from the sun. These points represent the turning points of the four seasons, the vernal equinox and the autumnal equinox, when day and night are of equal length, the summer solstice, when the day is longest and the night shortest, and the winter solstice, when the day is shortest and the night longest. On the southern hemisphere the order is reversed and while December 21 usually marks the shortest day of the year on the northern hemisphere, on the southern hemisphere it marks the longest of the astronomical year.

The ancient Greeks called the period including the seven days preceding and the seven days following the shortest day of the year "the Hecaton days." This phrase is derived from the myth that during this period, while the kingfisher or halcyon bird was breeding, the sea was always calm. According to poetic fiction, the bird was represented as hatching its eggs in a floating nest in the midst of waters.

### NO DEFINITE ACTION TAKEN AT MEETING OF LAYMEN HERE

Committee, Which Will Select Representatives From All Protestant Churches in Calumet, Not Ready to Report Fully.

Owing to the fact that all of the Protestant churches in Calumet of which there are more than 25, were not heard from last evening, the Laymen's Missionary movement meeting held in the Y. M. C. A. last evening for the purpose of hearing the report of the nominating committee, took no definite action. The committee presented a report, but as this is not complete, more time will be given the committee. Representatives from every church will be selected by the committee to take active interest in the movement.

E. T. Daume presided over last night's meeting, and while it was not largely attended, it was very enthusiastic. A report was read of the Detroit Laymen's convention, held early this month, and was voted a very favorable one.

Those present last evening discussed the coming state conventions to be held in Milwaukee and Duluth next April, and it was decided to encourage some of the members to attend as delegates. There is a probability that some of the local members will go. These will be instructed and urged to secure the services of one or more of the popular speakers at these conventions to come to Calumet to address the laymen of the churches here. It is proposed to hold a Laymen's Missionary convention in Calumet in the spring.

### SENATE TO INVESTIGATE.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The senate today practically decided upon the inauguration of an inquiry into the Balfinger-Pinchot controversy by adopting the resolution introduced by Senator Flint of California, calling for all the papers bearing upon the case.

### CHARGED WITH MURDER.

New Albany, Ind., Dec. 21.—Mrs. Pearl Armstrong was today formally charged with having poisoned her husband, who died yesterday. Armstrong had been ill some time and it is alleged his wife began administering small doses of poison last Thursday. He held \$1,000 life insurance in the Mollern Woodmen.

### FIRE CLAIMS SEVERAL.

New York, Dec. 21.—Theodore Fredricks, his wife and three children were burned to death when their home at Yonkers was destroyed this morning.

London, Dec. 21.—Five bodies were recovered this morning from the fire-ravaged ruins of a dry goods store in the Chatham quarters. The known dead number eight.

### BILL REPORTED TO HOUSE.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The "white slave traffic bill" recently agreed on by the committee on interstate and foreign commerce was favorably reported to the house today by Chairman Mann of that committee. The report distinctly disclaims any purpose to interfere with or usurp in any way the police powers of the states.

### Is Cook Mentally Affected?

New York, Dec. 21.—"If the public knew the truth concerning Cook's mental and physical condition, as it is known by his close friends, they would take a more charitable view of his present unfortunate situation," were the significant words uttered by H. Wellington Wake, counsel for Cook today, when told the University of Copenhagen had rejected Cook's proofs.

## GIRL MAY GET XMAS PARDON

Kansas Young Woman Sentenced  
for Murder May Be Set  
Free by Governor.

### MANY INTERCEDE FOR HER

Has Served Seven Years of Twenty-Five Year Sentence for Murder—Clemency Is Urged Because of Her Age and Sex.

Topeka, Kas., Dec. 21.—A pardon from Governor Stubbs may be received as a Christmas gift by Jessie Morrison, the Eldorado murderer, who is serving a sentence of twenty-five years in the penitentiary. Ever since the prison gates closed behind the young woman seven years ago unremitting efforts have been made to secure her release. Men and women of wealth and influence have been active in her behalf. Foremost among these was the late Col. Ben T. Murdock, the Eldorado editor and brother of Congressman Victor Murdock, who declared shortly before his death that one of his greatest ambitions was to secure the freedom of Jessie Morrison.

Had Colonel Murdock lived a few months longer it is extremely probable that he would have seen his ambition realized, for it is generally believed that Governor Stubbs has about made up his mind to pardon the young woman and will take action in the matter at an early date. It is a known fact that Mr. Stubbs himself was inclined several years ago to join the movement for a pardon for Miss Morrison, but since his election to the governorship he has hesitated to take any hasty action in the matter. Recently a petition signed by many of the foremost citizens of Eldorado has been presented to him, asking for the pardon of Miss Morrison. To this has been added the pleadings of a number of the governor's most intimate friends and advisors. In view of the strong pressure that is being brought to bear upon him it is regarded as almost a certainty that Governor Stubbs will grant the young woman a pardon at an early date.

The case of Miss Morrison is one of the most noted in the criminal records of Kansas. There has never been any question of her guilt of the murder of Mrs. Clara Castle, but those who have urged mercy in her behalf have based their pleas on her age, her sex, and the further fact that the conduct of Olin Castle, husband of the victim, had been such as to arouse Miss Morrison to a frenzied passion.

Miss Morrison was in love with Olin Castle. They were employed in the same store in Eldorado and were engaged to be married. Without notice to her Castle married a young woman named Clara Wiley. Shortly thereafter Miss Morrison went to the Castle home and the two women engaged in a death struggle. Mrs. Castle's throat was cut with a razor from ear to ear and she died a few days later.

Jessie Morrison was charged with the crime. She pleaded self-defense. The jury disagreed at the first trial. At the second trial she was convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to five years. Her attorneys appealed and the supreme court reversed the decision. At the third trial she was convicted of murder in the second degree and given twenty-five years in prison. The supreme court affirmed this decision.

### BROWNLOW-SIMS WEDDING.

Prominent Society Event to Take Place in Washington Tomorrow.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Official society is greatly interested in the wedding of Miss Elizabeth Virginia Sims, daughter of Representative Thetus W. Sims, from the 8th Tennessee district, and Mr. Louis Brownlow, which will take place tomorrow evening at the home of the bride's parents on Massachusetts avenue. The bride will be attended by her sister, Mrs. William Joyner, of Memphis and Denver, as matron of honor, and the best man will be Mr. W. L. Beale. Dr. Power of the Vermont Avenue Christian church will perform the ceremony, and a small reception will follow immediately after at the home of the bride. After a stay of several months in Europe the couple will take up their residence in this city.

Senator Keen of New Jersey is one of the Republican members of the upper house who has a fight on his hands for re-election. The legislature that will name his successor will be chosen next year. Several of the strongest Republican leaders in New Jersey are opposed to his re-election.

The political situation in North Dakota has been cleared up to some extent by the formal announcements from Congressman A. J. Gronna and former Congressman T. F. Marshall that they will be candidates for United States senator, the former for the short term made vacant by the death of Senator Johnson, and Mr. Marshall for the full term to succeed Senator McCumber.

Judge Peter S. Grosscup, the eminent Chicago jurist, is of the opinion that another political party is needed in the United States.

### U. S. NEEDS REST CURE.

Do More Work and Less Talking Says James J. Hill.

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 21.—"What the United States needs most of all just now is to give business a 'rest cure.' Let up on this agitation, and do more work and less talking in trying to solve the great economic questions. The 'rest cure' is the thing."

James J. Hill, chairman of the board of directors of the Great Northern Railway company, who is in the northwest with Howard Elliott, president of the Northern Pacific Railway company, and Darius Miller, first vice president of the Burlington system, suggested the foregoing remedy after diagnosing the country's ailments. Mr. Hill came to Spokane for a conference with Jay P. Graves, president of the Spokane & Inland Empire Electric Railway system, in which he recently acquired a controlling interest. He added:

"The people, not capital, make the country advance, but capital must be employed to keep the people at some occupation. When workers curtail the profit of capital then the country will face a serious condition. I do not say this will happen, but I do say that we must work to ward off even the probability of facing a situation of this kind. The way to do this is to keep the people employed. Give them occupation and the northwest can help mightily to do it at the present time. We need more foodstuffs."

"The country is still prosperous, but this is no time to make a comparison as to the brightness of the outlook. I don't know what to think of certain conditions, and for that reason I would not say that America will face a happy holiday season or that it won't taking the financial status of the states as a basis."

Mr. Hill announced officially that the Hill lines will traverse the Des Chutes country, where the Harriman system is now active.

### EARTH WILL HIT COMET.

Charroppin Says We Will Pass Through Tail Without Danger.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 21.—Rev. C. M. Charroppin, S. J., the astronomer of St. Louis University, has been making interesting telescopic observations concerning Halley's comet, which, he says, will begin to be visible to the naked eye in April. Father Charroppin has recently returned from Flagstaff, Ariz., where he made observations in the large telescope of Dr. Lowell. "At that time," he says, "in October the comet appeared like a mere point of nebulous matter but now it begins to develop a tiny little tail somewhat curved. With a good telescope it will easily be found in the Hyades, not far from the bright red star Aldebaran, in the constellation of Taurus."

"In all probability the comet may not be seen with the naked eye before next April, and then it will be a difficult object to St. Louisians, as the comet will be near the horizon in the morning. We should look for it in the constellation of Pisces, the Fishes, near the northeastern horizon, before sunrise."

"About May 14 it will be a conspicuous object in the eastern sky—a magnificent sight, which will be appreciated by early risers. After May 18 it will be seen soon after sunset on the western horizon, with its tail moving forward. Every night thereafter it will be observed a little farther from the sun, and consequently higher in the sky, until it will fade away from sight; but astronomers will still follow it in their telescopes for months."

Meeting to Be Very Tame.  
"The comet will reach perihelion, its nearest approach to the sun, the night of May 18, and as it swings its appendage forward, most probably the earth will pass through its tail."

"Those who expect a great pyrotechnic display will be disappointed. The tail of the comet, consisting of very tenuous matter, will not even penetrate our atmosphere. We will pass quietly through at the rate of eighteen and one half miles per second, without suspecting that we are within the tail of a great comet."

"Astronomers expect a transit of the nucleus of the comet across the sun's disk, but the least deviation in the comet's path may upset the present calculations. Such a transit should determine whether the nucleus is solid or not, but, unfortunately, this phenomenon will happen during the night, and will be invisible in America."

### WEATHER FORECAST



Light snow tonight and Wednesday and continued cold.

## ADOPTS ORDER FOR HEARINGS

House Committee Fires Opening  
Gun for Inter-State Commerce Legislation.

### COMMISSION URGES CHANGES

In Annual Report Submitted Today to Congress Outlined Desired Action—Taft Will Send Message on Subject.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The opening gun in the campaign in congress for general interstate commerce legislation was fired today by the house committee, which gave notice of the adoption of an order setting hearings for January 15 next and daily thereafter. It is expected the president's message urging reforms in the interstate commerce law will be ready for transmission to congress shortly after congress reconvenes in January.

Changes Are Recommended.  
Vigorous recommendations for changes in the present law regulating transportation companies are contained in the twenty-third annual report of the Interstate Commerce commission transmitted today to congress.

Notwithstanding the recommendations made, however, the report, in this respect, is notable rather for what it does not, than for what it does, contain. Five of the suggestions made by the special committee selected by President Taft to draft changes in the existing interstate commerce act are offered in the report. It is known that the commission, as a body, favors the plans proposed by the committee; but, as a matter of courtesy, it has refrained, in its report, from discussing the changes in advance of the special message on the subject which President Taft will send to the congress.

The commission expresses a conviction that certain amendments to the present law are necessary, so as to enable it to accomplish its purpose. Congress, briefly summarized, the proposed amendments are as follows:

That a physical valuation be made of the interstate railroads of the country. The commission points to the difficulty experienced in certain cases where its orders are attacked in court in meeting the testimony as to physical value offered by the carriers, and says that if its rates are to be defended, some method must be furnished by which a value can be established which shall be binding on the courts and the commission.

The commission again suggests that it be given power to prevent advances in rates or changes in regulations or practices to the disadvantage of the shipper, pending an investigation into the reasonableness of the proposed change.

The commission's authority to establish a joint rate and through route is limited to cases where no such route exists, and the commission recommends that this limitation be stricken from the law. A further recommendation is to the effect that in certain instances the shipper be permitted to direct the intermediate routing of his traffic. It is further suggested that the law be so amended as to give the commission undoubted authority to enter a corrective order as the result of an investigation instituted by the commission upon its own motion.

The commission again calls to the attention of congress the increasing importance of some form of federal control over railway capitalization and expresses the opinion that adequate legislation upon this subject is required by the interests involved.

### POLITICS AND POLITICIANS.

Senator Gore of Oklahoma will be one of the speakers at the banquet of Michigan Democrats to be given in Grand Rapids early in January.

Joseph E. Russell, who has been the representative of the Fifth Louisiana district in congress the past ten years, has been re-elected president of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress.

Patrick J. Boyle, mayor of Newport, R. I., probably holds the record for long service among the mayors of American cities. With the first of the year he will begin his fourteenth consecutive term.

A strong fight is to be made in behalf of a local option measure when the Pennsylvania General Assembly convenes in 1911. An effort will be made to have legislative candidates pledge themselves to vote for the bill, if elected.

Walter S. Dickey, chairman of the Republican State committee of Missouri, is now mentioned as a possible candidate for the seat of United States Senator William Warner, whose term will expire March 3, 1911.

"Alfalfa Bill" Murray, who served as president of the Constitutional convention and Speaker of the first Oklahoma legislature, will probably make the race for Governor of Oklahoma in the democratic primary next August.

Prohibitionists in Minnesota are much disappointed over the decision of the State Supreme Court holding that the Minnesota local option law for the control of the liquor traffic applies only to the towns and villages and not to the cities of the State.

### LONG TRIP AFTER CONVICT.

Deputy Warden Catlin Goes to Coast to Get Parole Breaker.

Marquette, Mich., Dec. 21.—Deputy Warden Catlin left Sunday night for Everett, Wash., on what is said to be the longest trip ever taken by an officer of the Marquette prison to get a parole breaking convict. He is after William Reilly, who was sent up from Charlevoix county, to serve not less than five nor more than ten years, for the crime of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder. Reilly was released on parole last April, and went to Southern Michigan. A few weeks ago the prison officials were surprised to learn that he, with two other men, had been arrested at Everett, Wash., for a burglary. Reilly was acquitted for violation of his parole from the Marquette prison. Requisition papers were asked for. They were received yesterday, and Deputy Warden Catlin at once arranged to leave to bring Reilly back. He was a trusty for some months before he was paroled, and has an excellent prison record.

### BANK ROBBERS UNSUCCESSFUL.

Hutchinson, Kas., Dec. 21.—After cutting all wires in the Central telephone office at Abbeville, Kas., early today, robbers made an unsuccessful attempt to dynamite the vault of the bank of that town. The robbers were detected while working in the bank, but succeeded in escaping.

### WARM FIGHT EXPECTED AT FINNISH MUTUAL ELECTION

Twenty-seven Stockholders Seek Election to Nine Places on Board of Directors—Nominations Are Made at Meeting.

At a special meeting of the Finnish Mutual Fire Insurance company held last Saturday evening, the names of 27 stockholders of the company were placed in nomination. The annual meeting of the company is to be held Saturday evening, January 8, and at that meeting the annual reports of the several officers will be read, nine directors elected, officers elected, and other business transacted.

All of the retiring members of the board, with the exception of Jacob Pesonen, the secretary, have again been placed in nomination. These are L. W. Primedig, Jacob Irtti, Charles Heusa, Andrew Johnson, John Jaaskainen, Charles J. Tolonen, and John Wattil. Others who have been placed in nomination for election, to oppose the candidacies of the retiring members, are Oscar J. Sembia, Oscar Hook, Christian Jokela, William Nissala, Edward Kelo, Isaac Luoma, Erik Westala, O. H. Sorsen, Laurie E. Gummerus, H. Holmstrom, John Koivumäki, Peter Mattson, Kalle Heisto, Isaac N. Polvi, Albert Tamani, and Eino Ojala. All of the candidates are working hard for election. The voting promises to be very heavy, and according to precedent the election likely will extend into the early hours of the morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Briggs will leave for Cleveland, O., this week to spend Christmas with their son.

## DISGRACE TO DEAD PARENTS

Orphan Sons of Former Passenger Agent of Santa Fe Confess to Crimes.

### COMPLAINT MADE BY UNCLE

George and Lawrence Thomas, Whose Parents Were Killed in Railroad Wreck, Sued From Relative, Also Held Up Man.

St. Louis, Dec. 21.—George and Lawrence, orphan sons of J. Q. Thomas, former freight and passenger agent of the Santa Fe railroad at Pueblo, Colo., today confessed to highway robbery and burglary to the police here. Their parents were killed in a railroad wreck in 1904. With the boys, who are 19 and 17 years old, is Joseph Kubat. Letters found on Lawrence showed he had been attending school in Quincy, Ill. He came to St. Louis Saturday night, went to his uncle's home and there, according to his confession today, stole an automatic revolver, some trinkets and a small amount of money. Later his uncle, Nathan R. Waters, asked the police to arrest the boy on a burglary charge. While the officers were waiting for Lawrence's return word came that S. Reid Holland, of Webster Grove, had been robbed by three highwaymen. A watch and pin taken from Holland were found on Lawrence and George confessed the robbery, implicating Kubat.

### BENEFIT FOR HOME RULE.

Big Theatrical Event in New York for Irish Parliamentary Party.

New York, Dec. 21.—Loyal sons of the Emerald Isle and other sympathizers with the Irish home rule cause packed the New Amsterdam theater this afternoon and vociferously applauded the "turns" of the score or more vaudeville and legitimate actors who contributed their services to the monster benefit arranged in aid of the fund that is being raised here for the Irish parliamentary party. The affair was also in the nature of a send-off to T. P. O'Connor, M. P., who has been touring the country for nearly two months to raise money for the work he has undertaken in regard to home rule for Ireland. Mr. O'Connor will sail for home tomorrow to take part in the election campaign now on in Great Britain. In addition to Mr. O'Connor those present at the big benefit performance this afternoon included Archbishop Farley and a number of the most prominent Irish leaders in New York.

Democrats of Indiana are preparing for a vigorous fight to capture the next legislature, which will choose a successor to Senator A. J. Beveridge. There are already several democratic candidates in the field for the senatorship, among them Major Meneses of Mount Vernon, John E. Lamb of Terra Haute, E. Ert Slack of Franklin and Judge Shea of Seymour.

### Labor Begins War on Steel Trust



AT LEFT ABOVE, W. D. MAHON; AT RIGHT, JAMES O'CONNELL; BELOW AT LEFT, H. GARY; AT RIGHT, T. L. LEWIS.

Pittsburg, Dec. 21.—The open defied by organized labor at the steel trust is expected to develop into a financial fight with one of the richest corporations in the world. The platform laid down by labor at the meeting just closed is believed to be in accord with the recent announcement at Chicago to the effect that organized labor as a